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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Manti-La Sal
National Forest

C/007/005 Incoming
cc: Dana
Jim gk
Supervisor's Office
599 West Price River Drive
Price, UT 84501
Phone # (435) 637-2817
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File Code: 2820-4

Date: March 4, 2008

RECEIVED

MAR 06 2008

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Jim Smith
Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
P.O. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Subject: Reduction of Subsidence Monitoring, Task ID #2875, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Skyline Mine, C/007/0005

Dear Jim:

My staff has reviewed the request for permit change from Skyline Mines to suspend subsidence monitoring over Mines 1, 2, and 3. The subsidence maps prepared up to 2006 have been compared and show that subsidence is substantially complete. Three areas of surface fracturing have been identified. One area contained graben-like fractures with up to about 6 feet of offset. They were repaired with a trackhoe. The other two areas of surface fracturing contained small fractures that have naturally healed over time. A review of the hydrologic database has shown no impacts to hydrologic resources in or near the area. Infrared monitoring of the area has shown no impacts to vegetation.


Forest Service Lease Stipulation #7 states:

"The Lessee shall be required to establish a monitoring system to locate, measure and quantify the progressive and final effects of underground mining activities on the topographic surface, underground and surface hydrology and vegetation. The monitoring system shall utilize techniques which will provide a continuing record of change over time and an analytical method for location and measurement of a number of points over the lease area. The monitoring shall incorporate and be an extension of the baseline data."

Based on our review of the subsidence data and resource data in the area, I feel it is appropriate that subsidence monitoring over Mines 1, 2, and 3 be suspended. The Lessee is in compliance with their lease stipulations. However, if resource impacts are identified in the future, additional subsidence monitoring may be required.

Please contact Dale Harber at (435) 636-3548 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

for 
HOWARD SARGENT
Forest Supervisor



Caring for the Land and Serving People

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